Docket No.: 0032-0254P (PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Hiroyuki SHIMIZU, et al.

Application No.: 09/530,013 Confirmation No.: 7256

Filed: April 24, 2000 Art Unit: 1655

For: METHOD FOR INHIBITING DEGRADATION Examiner: Ralph GITOMER OF BRAIN NATRIURETIC PEPTIDES

(as amended)

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated August 17, 2006, the following amendments and Remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

This response includes:

Amendment to the specification;

Amended Claim Set: and

Remarks.